

In the claims:

Applicant hereby restates the claims of the present application as follows:

1.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) A support structure for supporting a flowing-water drivable turbine system at a selected position below a water surface and above a sub-aquatic bed, the support structure comprising a plurality of legs fixed to the sub-aquatic bed, and a generally horizontal deck coupled to the plurality of legs, the deck having upper and lower surfaces, the deck having an asymmetrical streamlined cross-section defined by a greater convexity on one of the upper or lower surfaces compared with the other.

16. (New) The support structure of claim 15, further comprising displacing means for displacing the deck between an operational position below the water surface and a maintenance position adjacent to the water surface.

17. (New) The support structure of claim 16, wherein the deck is buoyant and the displacing means comprises extendable tension members connecting the deck to the plurality of legs.

18. (New) The support structure of claim 17, wherein the asymmetric streamlined cross-section of the deck is sufficient to provide by virtue of passing water flow an upward lifting force on the tension members.

19. (New) The support structure of claim 16, wherein the displacing means comprises vertically movable lifting sleeves connecting the deck to the plurality of legs.

20. (New) The support structure of claim 19, wherein the asymmetric streamlined cross-section of the deck is sufficient to provide by virtue of passing water flow a downward force on the plurality of legs.

21. (New) The support structure of claim 15, wherein each of the upper and lower surfaces of the deck are generally rectangular.

22. (New) The support structure of claim 15, further comprising a second deck vertically spaced from, and arranged generally parallel to, the first deck.

23. (New) A submerged water current turbine installation comprising a flowing-water drivable turbine system and a support structure for supporting the flowing-water drivable turbine system at a selected position below a water surface and above a sub-aquatic bed, the support structure including a plurality of legs fixed to the sub-aquatic bed, and a generally horizontal deck coupled to the plurality of legs, the deck having upper and lower surfaces, the deck having an asymmetrical streamlined cross-section defined by a greater convexity on one of the upper or lower surfaces compared with the other, the flowing-water drivable turbine system being fixed to one of the upper or lower surfaces.

24. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 23, further comprising displacing means for displacing the deck between an operational position wherein the water current turbine installation is below the water surface and a maintenance position wherein the water current turbine installation is above the water surface.

25. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 24, wherein the deck is buoyant and the displacing means comprises extendable tension members connecting the deck to the plurality of legs.

26. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 25, wherein the asymmetric streamlined cross-section of the deck is sufficient to provide by virtue of passing water flow an upward lifting force on the tension members.

27. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 24, wherein the displacing means comprises vertically movable lifting sleeves connecting the deck to the plurality of legs.

28. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 27, wherein the asymmetric streamlined cross-section of the deck is sufficient to provide by virtue of passing water flow a downward force on the plurality of legs.

29. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 23, wherein each of the upper and lower surfaces of the deck are generally rectangular.

30. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 23, further comprising a second deck vertically spaced from, and arranged generally parallel to, the first deck.

31. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 30, wherein the flowing-water drivable turbine system is fixed between the first and second decks.

32. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 30, wherein the flowing-water drivable turbine system is fixed in horizontal alignment with the second deck.

33. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 30, wherein the second deck is smaller than the first deck.

34. (New) The submerged water current turbine installation of claim 24, wherein the flowing-water drivable turbine system is situated on an upper surface of the deck, and an obstruction substantially blocks space below the deck when the deck is located on the operational position, the space below the deck remaining sufficient to permit any turbulent boundary layer forming adjacent to the sub-aquatic bed to pass below the deck.